

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY: L/EA:EGVERVILLE:MAD

APPROVED BY: L/EA:EGVERVILLE

EA-MR. WENZEL

DIST: L, EA

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

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FOR ALDRICH

FOLLOWING REPEAT SAIGON 1496 ACTION SECSTATE SECDEF
CINCPAC 7 JANUARY.

QUOTE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS VS

SUBJECT: UPI REPORT ON PRESENCE OF US AIRMEN

1. WE NOTE FROM WIRELESS FILE THAT DOD SPOKESMAN WAS ASKED
ABOUT UPI REPORT FROM SAIGON THAT "US AIRMEN ARE GIVING ASSISTANCE
TO THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE IN APPARENT CONTRAVENTION OF THE 1973
PARIS PEACE ACCORD."

2. WE BELIEVE THIS SO-CALLED "STORY" CAN BE HANDLED BEST BY
POINTING OUT THAT WE, OF COURSE, DO BRING IN FROM TIME TO TIME
TECHNICAL SPECIALISTS AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO ASSIST IN ADMINISTERING
SPECIALIZED ASPECTS OF THE DEFENSE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR VIETNAM.
DOING SO IS NECESSARY AND DESIRABLE IN THE INTEREST OF GOOD

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MANAGEMENT OF THE PROGRAM AND OBVIOUSLY IS NO MORE A "CONTRAVENTION"

OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT THAN THE EXISTENCE OF THE PROGRAM ITSELF.
THE PROVISIONS OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT WHICH CALL FOR ONE-FOR-ONE
REPLACEMENT OF MILITARY ITEMS CLEARLY ENVISAGED SUCH PROGRAMS.
THE PARTICULAR PEOPLE REFERRED TO IN THE STORY IS A GROUP OF SEVENTEE
N
AIRMEN TEMPORARILY HERE TO ASSIST IN RECEIPT AND STORAGE OF SPARE
PARTS FOR VNAF COMING IN UNDER THE CURRENT DAV PROGRAM.

3. AS TO MOVING PEOPLE IN AND OUT THIS IS A MATTER OF BOTH
ADMINISTRATIVE CONVENIENCE AND A POLICY UNDER WHICH WE KEEP THE
NUMBER OF AMERICAN MILITARY PERSONNEL ENGAGED IN ADMINISTERING THE
MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN VIETNAM TO A MINIMUM ESSENTIAL
FOR THAT PURPOSE.
LEHMANN UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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